

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[0065] A home automation and control architecture that includes one or more controlled devices and one or more control panels coupled by a communication network. Each of the controlled devices is directly coupled to at least one control panel and configured to communicate control information with the coupled panel. The control panels comprise sufficient computing resources for implementing a user interface and executing application software to generate control messages based on user input and/or context information of which the control panel is aware. A message broker implemented within the one or more control panels conveys control messages from a first control panel that initiates the control message to one or more other control panels that implement the control message. An inter-control communication path couples each of the control panels such that any one of the control panels can effect control over any of the controlled devices by communicating through another control panel that is directly coupled to a specific device.